

“WPFD News”

TOPIC/SUBJECT: PFD’s save lives

TARGET AUDIENCE/AGE LEVEL: Older elementary school (4th-6th Grade)

TIME: 10 minutes

THEME: When you care about your friends safety on the water you make more friends.

GOAL/PURPOSE: Creatively illustrate why PFD’s are an integral part of boating.

OBJECTIVE(S): Viewers will realize nobody wants to be around those who don't play safely and wear their life jacket.

DESCRIPTION:

Choose volunteers to act the parts in the PSA radio script. Don’t forget people to act out sound effects, narrate, be producer/director, etc. The following is a sample script:

“PFD’s Save Lives!!”

Situation: Two young men, to be joined by a young woman, about to set off in a boat for a day’s fishing.

Larry: Hey, Jimbo, the hour of the great fishing trip has arrived, right? Pass me those PFD’s.

Jim: PF whats?

Larry: PFD’s man - Personal Flotation Devices. Life Jackets! I say who needs ‘em, but (sarcastically) Lindsey says PFD’s can prevent 80% of drownings and she feels “safer” with ‘em on board, so what the heck, right? Just stow ‘em someplace. Hey, here’s Lindsey!

Lindsey: Hi guys!

Larry: You’re gonna feel so safe - your PFD’s are all on board.

Lindsey: Well, you’re improving! Let’s see if they fit everybody.

Larry: What for? The boat goes down, we grab our PFD’s and float away, right? Then somebody comes by and picks us up.

Lindsey: You wish! You think you can count on that?

Jim (to himself): This man has a death wish! (Aloud) Larry, shouldn’t we wear them? If the boat went down in a spin, they could get thrown out of reach.

Larry(still nonchalant but getting peeved): Hey, we’d think of something.

Jim: Look buddy, attitudes like that kill people. Lindsey, you still want to go?

Lindsey: Nah, let’s just split. So long Larry.

Larry (voice fading out): Hey, I’m putting it on!

Narrator: The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Your safety. Our concern.

Program Note: This skit can be a fun and entertaining way to get across the importance of PFD's. It may also take a few takes before the script goes smoothly.

SUGGESTED MATERIALS & EQUIPMENT: Sample scripts, usually 60 second psa's. You can use old Corps of Engineers scripts, or be a playwright and create your own.